

## MAJOR FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

For a city its size, Washington has made tremendous strides in physical renewal. But, aside from constructing public housing, few "people-helping" programs have been set in motion to build a better life for Washington's low-income families who are most directly affected by this extensive city face-lifting activity.

On the basis of the findings of this survey and of conversations with numerous Washingtonians, many suggestions for additional public and private action are offered. Washington may not be able to afford to do all of the things suggested here. Nor will its leaders necessarily agree that all these things should be done. These suggestions are therefore provided as a beginning base for community discussion. Which of the problems pointed up by this report concern the community most? How much of what is proposed here would the community want to act on, if it could afford to do so? In what order does the community feel these problems should be tackled?

Detailed suggestions for each neighborhood are provided in context in Part II, under the headings "Suggestions for Additional Action." Major suggestions are summarized below:

1. Enlarge somewhat the geographic coverage and expedite federally-assisted urban renewal.
2. Develop a comprehensive human renewal program to accompany the extensive physical renewal program already under way. In this connection, explore the desirability of establishing a neighborhood center facility or facilities with grant

money available from the Department of Housing and Urban Development.

3. Build community interest in Washington's unique historic structures resource, and take affirmative action to conserve, restore, and put this resource to use to the full advantage of the community.
  - a. Promote restoration and use of fine old homes by young business and professional families.
  - b. Preserve and adapt historic structures to appropriate current uses.
  - c. Adopt historic zoning to protect this resource.
4. Capitalize fully on high value waterfront land, encouraging park and recreational development where appropriate and suitable commercial and residential uses.
5. Encourage the formation of neighborhood organizations to prevent and fight blight.
6. Encourage the development of sound subdivisions and well-rounded neighborhoods (incorporating shopping, service, and recreational facilities) in the community's rapid growth areas.
7. Consider the adoption of a formal annexation policy and the desirability of consolidation between the City of Washington and the Town of Washington Park.
8. Improve the image the city projects by cleaning up, beautifying, and protecting its major approaches.

Calculating the costs of translating all this "suggested additional action" into real action is a major job in itself, beyond the scope of this study.

Obviously, a great deal of money will be required to do even a few of the many things that might be done. But the first order of